

Danger or Harm from AOD

Perceived Danger or Harm from AOD:

The most dangerous drugs are perceived as being heroin, followed by acid/LSD, and cocaine. Drugs perceived as least dangerous or harmful were cigarettes, followed by marijuana and alcohol (Figure 15).

Fully 14% of respondents perceived no danger or harm in smoking cigarettes; 6% found no harm in using marijuana; 2% felt no danger associated with alcohol use; 0.6% in using heroin; 0.3% in using cocaine; and none in using acid/LSD.

Percentage of Respondents Assessing AOD as Very Dangerous or Not at All Dangerous

Type of AOD	Very Dangerous	Not at All Dangerous
Heroin	95%	0.6%
Acid/LSD	89%	0
Cocaine	85%	0.3%
Alcohol	47%	2%
Marijuana	43%	6%
Cigarettes	25%	14%

Preliminary Comparisons of High School Leavers in this Study and the TAODNAS

That these youth constitute a high risk group for alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, abuse and problems will be determined by comparisons with data on otherwise comparable youth from the statewide high school survey - youth of the same sex, age, race and region as these school leavers - who have stayed in high school.

Here, however, we can begin to suggest the types of analyses that will be done when the high school survey data are available for analysis by comparing two groups of youth -- those ages 16 through 19 from the high school leavers study and those from 18 to 24 from the adult needs assessment survey of 1993 (TAODNAS). The lifetime prevalence of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use is higher among high school leavers in